

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Thirty-fifth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.

Residents of Thirty-fifth Middlesex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 1.2% (1,499) of these admissions reside in the Thirty-fifth Middlesex Representative District. 2% (27) of admissions from the Thirty-fifth Middlesex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Thirty-fifth Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 75% were male and 25% were female.
- 67% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 85% were white non-Latino, 5% were black non-Latino, 6% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 71% were never married, 13% were married, and 17% reported not to be married now.
- 23% had less than high school education, 57% completed high school, and 21% had more than high school education.
- 25% were employed.
- 8% were homeless.
- 25% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Thirty-fifth Middlesex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	35%	45%	3%	3%	1%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2002							
Thirty-fifth Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	1,238	972	375	438	252	369	229
FY '96	1,212	900	394	416	282	447	268
FY '97	1,241	966	369	358	214	441	308
FY '98	1,383	1,025	363	419	214	551	367
FY '99	1,385	973	399	404	165	616	453
FY '00	1,407	944	393	442	174	698	546
FY '01	1,254	807	287	332	104	626	485
FY '02	1,499	892	319	345	122	762	525

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Thirty-fifth Middlesex Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

